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6 **IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
7 **FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA**  
8

9 Donimic T. Brooks,

No. CV 13-220-PHX-RCB (BSB)

10 Plaintiff,

11 vs.

**ORDER**

12 Corrections Corporation of America, et  
13 al.,

14 Defendants.  
15

16 On February 1, 2013, Plaintiff Donimic T. Brooks, who is confined in the  
17 Corrections Corporation of America's Saguaro Correctional Center (CCA-SCC) in Eloy,  
18 Arizona, filed a *pro se* civil rights Complaint pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 (Doc. 1), a  
19 Declaration in Support, a Motion for Summary Judgment (Doc. 3), and a Declaration in  
20 Support of Request to Proceed Without Paying Filing Fee ("First Application to  
21 Proceed"). On February 13, 2013, he filed a Request to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis*  
22 ("Second Application to Proceed"). On February 26, 2013, Plaintiff filed an Application  
23 to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis* by a Prisoner ("Third Application to Proceed") and a  
24 Motion for Appointment of Counsel (Doc. 8).

25 In an April 25, 2013 Order, the Court denied the three deficient Applications to  
26 Proceed and gave Plaintiff 30 days to pay the filing fee or file a complete Application to  
27 Proceed *In Forma Pauperis*. On May 17, 2013, Plaintiff filed another Application to  
28 Proceed *In Forma Pauperis* (Doc. 10).

**I. May 17 Application to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis* and Filing Fee**

Plaintiff's May 17 Application to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis* will be granted. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a). Plaintiff must pay the statutory filing fee of \$350.00. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(1). The Court will assess an initial partial filing fee of \$4.12. The remainder of the fee will be collected monthly in payments of 20% of the previous month's income each time the amount in the account exceeds \$10.00. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(b)(2). The Court will enter a separate Order requiring the appropriate government agency to collect and forward the fees according to the statutory formula.

**II. Statutory Screening of Prisoner Complaints**

The Court is required to screen complaints brought by prisoners seeking relief against a governmental entity or an officer or an employee of a governmental entity. 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(a). The Court must dismiss a complaint or portion thereof if a plaintiff has raised claims that are legally frivolous or malicious, that fail to state a claim upon which relief may be granted, or that seek monetary relief from a defendant who is immune from such relief. 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(b)(1), (2).

A pleading must contain a "short and plain statement of the claim *showing* that the pleader is entitled to relief." Fed. R. Civ. P. 8(a)(2) (emphasis added). While Rule 8 does not demand detailed factual allegations, "it demands more than an unadorned, the-defendant-unlawfully-harmed-me accusation." *Ashcroft v. Iqbal*, 556 U.S. 662, 678 (2009). "Threadbare recitals of the elements of a cause of action, supported by mere conclusory statements, do not suffice." *Id.*

"[A] complaint must contain sufficient factual matter, accepted as true, to 'state a claim to relief that is plausible on its face.'" *Id.* (quoting *Bell Atlantic Corp. v. Twombly*, 550 U.S. 544, 570 (2007)). A claim is plausible "when the plaintiff pleads factual content that allows the court to draw the reasonable inference that the defendant is liable for the misconduct alleged." *Id.* "Determining whether a complaint states a plausible claim for relief [is] . . . a context-specific task that requires the reviewing court to draw on its judicial experience and common sense." *Id.* at 679. Thus, although a plaintiff's

1 specific factual allegations may be consistent with a constitutional claim, a court must  
 2 assess whether there are other “more likely explanations” for a defendant’s conduct. *Id.*  
 3 at 681.

4 But as the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit has instructed,  
 5 courts must “continue to construe *pro se* filings liberally.” *Hebbe v. Pliler*, 627 F.3d 338,  
 6 342 (9th Cir. 2010). A “complaint [filed by a *pro se* prisoner] ‘must be held to less  
 7 stringent standards than formal pleadings drafted by lawyers.’” *Id.* (quoting *Erickson v.*  
 8 *Pardus*, 551 U.S. 89, 94 (2007) (*per curiam*)).

9 If the Court determines that a pleading could be cured by the allegation of other  
 10 facts, a *pro se* litigant is entitled to an opportunity to amend a complaint before dismissal  
 11 of the action. *See Lopez v. Smith*, 203 F.3d 1122, 1127-29 (9th Cir. 2000) (*en banc*). The  
 12 Court should not, however, advise the litigant how to cure the defects. This type of  
 13 advice “would undermine district judges’ role as impartial decisionmakers.” *Pliler v.*  
 14 *Ford*, 542 U.S. 225, 231 (2004); *see also Lopez*, 203 F.3d at 1131 n.13 (declining to  
 15 decide whether the court was required to inform a litigant of deficiencies). The Court  
 16 will dismiss Plaintiff’s Complaint for failure to state a claim, but because the Complaint  
 17 may possibly be saved by amendment, will dismiss the Complaint with leave to amend.

### 18 **III. Complaint**

19 In his one-count Complaint, Plaintiff sues the following Defendants: Corrections  
 20 Corporation of America (CCA), Saguaro Correctional Center Medical Branch, Medical  
 21 Unit Manager Patti Sells, and Head Warden Todd Thomas.

22 Plaintiff alleges that “all” of CCA-SCC’s “medical or regular[] staff in part or by  
 23 liability” violated his First, Fifth, Eighth, and Fourteenth Amendment rights regarding his  
 24 medical care. He claims the he submitted a request for medical services on July 31,  
 25 2011, but he did not receive any medical services until September 1, 2011. He alleges  
 26 that a medical staff member wrote on his request that, “[w]hen you can be appropriate  
 27 and courteous, I will respond.” Plaintiff alleges that there was “deliberate indifference”  
 28

1 and that that he had pain and suffering for the 31 days between July 31 and September 1.  
2 In his Request for Relief, Plaintiff seeks monetary damages.

#### 3 **IV. Failure to State a Claim**

4 Although *pro se* pleadings are liberally construed, *Haines v. Kerner*, 404 U.S. 519,  
5 520-21 (1972), conclusory and vague allegations will not support a cause of action. *Ivey*  
6 *v. Bd. of Regents of the Univ. of Alaska*, 673 F.2d 266, 268 (9th Cir. 1982). Further, a  
7 liberal interpretation of a civil rights complaint may not supply essential elements of the  
8 claim that were not initially pled. *Id.*

9 To state a valid claim under § 1983, plaintiffs must allege that they suffered a  
10 specific injury as a result of specific conduct of a defendant and show an affirmative link  
11 between the injury and the conduct of that defendant. *See Rizzo v. Goode*, 423 U.S. 362,  
12 371-72, 377 (1976). There is no *respondeat superior* liability under § 1983, and  
13 therefore, a defendant's position as the supervisor of persons who allegedly violated  
14 Plaintiff's constitutional rights does not impose liability. *Monell v. New York City Dep't*  
15 *of Soc. Servs.*, 436 U.S. 658, 691-92 (1978); *Hamilton v. Endell*, 981 F.2d 1062, 1067  
16 (9th Cir. 1992); *Taylor v. List*, 880 F.2d 1040, 1045 (9th Cir. 1989). "Because vicarious  
17 liability is inapplicable to *Bivens* and § 1983 suits, a plaintiff must plead that each  
18 Government-official defendant, through the official's own individual actions, has  
19 violated the Constitution." *Iqbal*, 556 U.S. at 676. Conclusory allegations that a  
20 Defendant or group of Defendants has violated a constitutional right are insufficient.

21 Plaintiff has not alleged that any particular Defendant personally participated in a  
22 deprivation of Plaintiff's constitutional rights, was aware of a deprivation and failed to  
23 act, or formed policies that resulted in Plaintiff's injuries. Moreover, Plaintiff's  
24 allegation that CCA-SCC medical staff and regular staff violated his rights is simply an  
25 insufficient, conclusory allegation against a group of Defendants.

26 In addition, to state a claim under § 1983 against a private entity performing a  
27 traditional public function such as operating a prison, a plaintiff must allege facts to  
28 support that his constitutional rights were violated as a result of a policy, decision, or

1 custom promulgated or endorsed by the private entity. *See Buckner v. Toro*, 116 F.3d  
2 450, 452 (11th Cir. 1997). Plaintiff has not alleged that his constitutional rights were  
3 violated as a result of a policy, custom, or decision of Defendant CCA.

4 Thus, the Court will dismiss without prejudice Defendants CCA, Saguaro  
5 Correctional Center Medical Branch, Sells, and Thomas.

6 **V. Leave to Amend**

7 For the foregoing reasons, Plaintiff's Complaint will be dismissed for failure to  
8 state a claim upon which relief may be granted. Within 30 days, Plaintiff may submit a  
9 first amended complaint to cure the deficiencies outlined above. The Clerk of Court will  
10 mail Plaintiff a court-approved form to use for filing a first amended complaint. If  
11 Plaintiff fails to use the court-approved form, the Court may strike the amended  
12 complaint and dismiss this action without further notice to Plaintiff.

13 Plaintiff must clearly designate on the face of the document that it is the "First  
14 Amended Complaint." The first amended complaint must be retyped or rewritten in its  
15 entirety on the court-approved form and may not incorporate any part of the original  
16 Complaint by reference. Plaintiff may include only one claim per count.

17 If Plaintiff files an amended complaint, Plaintiff must write short, plain statements  
18 telling the Court: (1) the constitutional right Plaintiff believes was violated; (2) the name  
19 of the Defendant who violated the right; (3) exactly what that Defendant did or failed to  
20 do; (4) how the action or inaction of that Defendant is connected to the violation of  
21 Plaintiff's constitutional right; and (5) what specific injury Plaintiff suffered because of  
22 that Defendant's conduct. *See Rizzo*, 423 U.S. at 371-72, 377.

23 Plaintiff must repeat this process for each person he names as a Defendant. If  
24 Plaintiff fails to affirmatively link the conduct of each named Defendant with the specific  
25 injury suffered by Plaintiff, the allegations against that Defendant will be dismissed for  
26 failure to state a claim. **Conclusory allegations that a Defendant or group of**  
27 **Defendants has violated a constitutional right are not acceptable and will be**  
28 **dismissed.**

1 Plaintiff should take note that not every claim by a prisoner relating to inadequate  
2 medical treatment states a violation of the Eighth or Fourteenth Amendment. To state a  
3 § 1983 medical claim, a plaintiff must show that the defendants acted with “deliberate  
4 indifference to serious medical needs.” *Jett v. Penner*, 439 F.3d 1091, 1096 (9th Cir.  
5 2006) (quoting *Estelle v. Gamble*, 429 U.S. 97, 104 (1976)). A plaintiff must show (1) a  
6 “serious medical need” by demonstrating that failure to treat the condition could result in  
7 further significant injury or the unnecessary and wanton infliction of pain and (2) the  
8 defendant’s response was deliberately indifferent. *Jett*, 439 F.3d at 1096 (quotations  
9 omitted).

10 “Deliberate indifference is a high legal standard.” *Toguchi v. Chung*, 391 F.3d  
11 1051, 1060 (9th Cir. 2004). To act with deliberate indifference, a prison official must  
12 both know of and disregard an excessive risk to inmate health; “the official must both be  
13 aware of facts from which the inference could be drawn that a substantial risk of serious  
14 harm exists, and he must also draw the inference.” *Farmer v. Brennan*, 511 U.S. 825,  
15 837 (1994). Deliberate indifference in the medical context may be shown by a  
16 purposeful act or failure to respond to a prisoner’s pain or possible medical need and  
17 harm caused by the indifference. *Jett*, 439 F.3d at 1096. Deliberate indifference may  
18 also be shown when a prison official intentionally denies, delays, or interferes with  
19 medical treatment or by the way prison doctors respond to the prisoner’s medical needs.  
20 *Estelle*, 429 U.S. at 104-05; *Jett*, 439 F.3d at 1096.

21 Deliberate indifference is a higher standard than negligence or lack of ordinary  
22 due care for the prisoner’s safety. *Farmer*, 511 U.S. at 835. “Neither negligence nor  
23 gross negligence will constitute deliberate indifference.” *Clement v. California Dep’t of*  
24 *Corr.*, 220 F. Supp. 2d 1098, 1105 (N.D. Cal. 2002); *see also Broughton v. Cutter Labs.*,  
25 622 F.2d 458, 460 (9th Cir. 1980) (mere claims of “indifference,” “negligence,” or  
26 “medical malpractice” do not support a claim under § 1983). “A difference of opinion  
27 does not amount to deliberate indifference to [a plaintiff’s] serious medical needs.”  
28 *Sanchez v. Vild*, 891 F.2d 240, 242 (9th Cir. 1989). A mere delay in medical care,

without more, is insufficient to state a claim against prison officials for deliberate indifference. *See Shapley v. Nevada Bd. of State Prison Comm'rs*, 766 F.2d 404, 407 (9th Cir. 1985). The indifference must be substantial. The action must rise to a level of “unnecessary and wanton infliction of pain.” *Estelle*, 429 U.S. at 105.

A first amended complaint supersedes the original complaint. *Ferdik v. Bonzelet*, 963 F.2d 1258, 1262 (9th Cir. 1992); *Hal Roach Studios v. Richard Feiner & Co.*, 896 F.2d 1542, 1546 (9th Cir. 1990). After amendment, the Court will treat an original complaint as nonexistent. *Ferdik*, 963 F.2d at 1262. Any cause of action that was raised in the original complaint is waived if it is not raised in a first amended complaint. *King v. Atiyeh*, 814 F.2d 565, 567 (9th Cir. 1987).

#### **VI. Motion for Summary Judgment**

In light of the Court’s dismissal of Plaintiff’s Complaint for failure to state a claim, the Court will deny as moot Plaintiff’s Motion for Summary Judgment.

#### **VII. Motion for Appointment of Counsel**

There is no constitutional right to the appointment of counsel in a civil case. *See Ivey*, 673 F.2d at 269. In proceedings *in forma pauperis*, the court may request an attorney to represent any person unable to afford one. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(1). Appointment of counsel under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(1) is required only when “exceptional circumstances” are present. *Terrell v. Brewer*, 935 F.2d 1015, 1017 (9th Cir. 1991). A determination with respect to exceptional circumstances requires an evaluation of the likelihood of success on the merits as well as the ability of Plaintiff to articulate his claims *pro se* in light of the complexity of the legal issue involved. *Id.* “Neither of these factors is dispositive and both must be viewed together before reaching a decision.” *Id.* (quoting *Wilborn v. Escalderon*, 789 F.2d 1328, 1331 (9th Cir. 1986)).

Having considered both elements, it does not appear at this time that exceptional circumstances are present that would require the appointment of counsel in this case. Plaintiff is in no different position than many *pro se* prisoner litigants. Thus, the Court will deny without prejudice Plaintiff’s Motion for Appointment of Counsel.



1 **VIII. Warnings**

2 **A. Release**

3 Plaintiff must pay the unpaid balance of the filing fee within 120 days of his  
4 release. Also, within 30 days of his release, he must either (1) notify the Court that he  
5 intends to pay the balance or (2) show good cause, in writing, why he cannot. Failure to  
6 comply may result in dismissal of this action.

7 **B. Address Changes**

8 Plaintiff must file and serve a notice of a change of address in accordance with  
9 Rule 83.3(d) of the Local Rules of Civil Procedure. Plaintiff must not include a motion  
10 for other relief with a notice of change of address. Failure to comply may result in  
11 dismissal of this action.

12 **C. Copies**

13 Plaintiff must submit an additional copy of every filing for use by the Court. *See*  
14 LRCiv 5.4. Failure to comply may result in the filing being stricken without further  
15 notice to Plaintiff.

16 **D. Possible “Strike”**

17 Because the Complaint has been dismissed for failure to state a claim, if Plaintiff  
18 fails to file an amended complaint correcting the deficiencies identified in this Order, the  
19 dismissal may count as a “strike” under the “3-strikes” provision of 28 U.S.C. § 1915(g).  
20 Under the 3-strikes provision, a prisoner may not bring a civil action or appeal a civil  
21 judgment *in forma pauperis* under 28 U.S.C. § 1915 “if the prisoner has, on 3 or more  
22 prior occasions, while incarcerated or detained in any facility, brought an action or appeal  
23 in a court of the United States that was dismissed on the grounds that it is frivolous,  
24 malicious, or fails to state a claim upon which relief may be granted, unless the prisoner  
25 is under imminent danger of serious physical injury.” 28 U.S.C. § 1915(g).

26 **E. Possible Dismissal**

27 If Plaintiff fails to timely comply with every provision of this Order, including  
28 these warnings, the Court may dismiss this action without further notice. *See Ferdik*, 963



1 F.2d at 1260-61 (a district court may dismiss an action for failure to comply with any  
2 order of the Court).

3 **IT IS ORDERED:**

4 (1) Plaintiff's May 17, 2013 Application to Proceed *In Forma Pauperis*  
5 (Doc. 10) is **granted**.

6 (2) As required by the accompanying Order to the appropriate government  
7 agency, Plaintiff must pay the \$350.00 filing fee and is assessed an initial partial filing  
8 fee of \$4.12.

9 (3) The Complaint (Doc. 1) is **dismissed** for failure to state a claim. Plaintiff  
10 has **30 days** from the date this Order is filed to file a first amended complaint in  
11 compliance with this Order.

12 (4) If Plaintiff fails to file an amended complaint within 30 days, the Clerk of  
13 Court must, without further notice, enter a judgment of dismissal of this action with  
14 prejudice that states that the dismissal may count as a "strike" under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(g).

15 (5) Plaintiff's Motion for Summary Judgment (Doc. 3) is **denied as moot**.

16 (6) Plaintiff's Motion for Appointment of Counsel (Doc. 8) is **denied without**  
17 **prejudice**.

18 (7) The Clerk of Court must mail Plaintiff a court-approved form for filing a  
19 civil rights complaint by a prisoner.

20 Dated this 28th day of August.

21  
22  
23 

24 Robert C. Broomfield  
25 Senior United States District Judge  
26  
27  
28

**Instructions for a Prisoner Filing a Civil Rights Complaint  
in the United States District Court for the District of Arizona**

1. Who May Use This Form. The civil rights complaint form is designed to help incarcerated persons prepare a complaint seeking relief for a violation of their federal civil rights. These complaints typically concern, but are not limited to, conditions of confinement. **This form should not be used to challenge your conviction or sentence.** If you want to challenge a state conviction or sentence, you should file a petition under 28 U.S.C. § 2254 for a writ of habeas corpus by a person in state custody. If you want to challenge a federal conviction or sentence, you should file a motion under 28 U.S.C. § 2255 to vacate sentence in the federal court that entered the judgment.
2. The Form. **Local Rule of Civil Procedure (LRCiv) 3.4(a) provides that complaints by incarcerated persons must be filed on the court-approved form.** The form must be typed or neatly handwritten. The form must be completely filled in to the extent applicable. All questions must be answered clearly and concisely in the appropriate space on the form. If needed, you may attach additional pages, **but no more than fifteen additional pages**, of standard letter-sized paper. You must identify which part of the complaint is being continued and number all pages. If you do not fill out the form properly, you will be asked to submit additional or corrected information, which may delay the processing of your action. You do not need to cite law.
3. Your Signature. You must tell the truth and sign the form. If you make a false statement of a material fact, you may be prosecuted for perjury.
4. The Filing Fee. The filing fee for this action is \$350.00. If you are unable to immediately pay the filing fee, you may request leave to proceed *in forma pauperis*. Please review the “Information for Prisoners Seeking Leave to Proceed with a (Non-Habeas) Civil Action in Federal Court *In Forma Pauperis* Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915” for additional instructions.
5. Original and Judge’s Copy. You must send an **original plus one copy** of your complaint and of any other documents submitted to the Court. You must send one additional copy to the Court if you wish to have a file-stamped copy of the document returned to you. All copies must be identical to the original. Copies may be legibly handwritten.
6. Where to File. You should file your complaint in the division **where you were confined when your rights were allegedly violated.** See LRCiv 5.1(a) and 77.1(a). If you were confined in Maricopa, Pinal, Yuma, La Paz, or Gila County, file in the Phoenix Division. If you were confined in Apache, Navajo, Coconino, Mohave, or Yavapai County, file in the Prescott Division. If you were confined in Pima, Cochise, Santa Cruz, Graham, or Greenlee County, file in the Tucson Division. **Mail the original and one copy of the complaint with the \$350 filing fee or the application to proceed *in forma pauperis* to:**

Phoenix & Prescott Divisions:  
U.S. District Court Clerk  
U.S. Courthouse, Suite 130  
401 West Washington Street, SPC 10  
Phoenix, Arizona 85003-2119

**OR**

Tucson Division:  
U.S. District Court Clerk  
U.S. Courthouse, Suite 1500  
405 West Congress Street  
Tucson, Arizona 85701-5010

7. Change of Address. You must immediately notify the Court and the defendants in writing of any change in your mailing address. **Failure to notify the Court of any change in your mailing address may result in the dismissal of your case.**

8. Certificate of Service. You must furnish the defendants with a copy of any document you submit to the Court (except the initial complaint and application to proceed *in forma pauperis*). Each original document (except the initial complaint and application to proceed *in forma pauperis*) must include a certificate of service on the last page of the document stating the date a copy of the document was mailed to the defendants and the address to which it was mailed. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 5(a), (d). Any document received by the Court that does not include a certificate of service may be stricken. A certificate of service should be in the following form:

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing document was mailed  
this \_\_\_\_\_ (month, day, year) to:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Attorney for Defendant(s)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

9. Amended Complaint. If you need to change any of the information in the initial complaint, you must file an amended complaint. The amended complaint must be written on the court-approved civil rights complaint form. You may file one amended complaint without leave (permission) of Court before any defendant has answered your original complaint. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 15(a). After any defendant has filed an answer, you must file a motion for leave to amend and lodge (submit) a proposed amended complaint. LRCiv 15.1. In addition, an amended complaint may not incorporate by reference any part of your prior complaint. LRCiv 15.1(a)(2). **Any allegations or defendants not included in the amended complaint are considered dismissed.** All amended complaints are subject to screening under the Prison Litigation Reform Act; screening your amendment will take additional processing time.

10. Exhibits. You should not submit exhibits with the complaint or amended complaint. Instead, the relevant information should be paraphrased. You should keep the exhibits to use to support or oppose a motion to dismiss, a motion for summary judgment, or at trial.

11. Letters and Motions. It is generally inappropriate to write a letter to any judge or the staff of any judge. The only appropriate way to communicate with the Court is by filing a written pleading or motion.

12. Completing the Civil Rights Complaint Form.

**HEADING:**

1. Your Name. Print your name, prison or inmate number, and institutional mailing address on the lines provided.
2. Defendants. If there are **four or fewer** defendants, print the name of each. If you name **more than four** defendants, print the name of the first defendant on the first line, write the words “and others” on the second line, and attach an additional page listing the names of **all** of the defendants. Insert the additional page after page 1 and number it “1-A” at the bottom.
3. Jury Demand. If you want a jury trial, you must write “JURY TRIAL DEMANDED” in the space below “CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLAINT BY A PRISONER.” Failure to do so may result in the loss of the right to a jury trial. A jury trial is not available if you are seeking only injunctive relief.

**Part A. JURISDICTION:**

1. Nature of Suit. Mark whether you are filing the complaint pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 for state, county, or city defendants; “Bivens v. Six Unknown Federal Narcotics Agents” for federal defendants; or “other.” If you mark “other,” identify the source of that authority.
2. Location. Identify the institution and city where the alleged violation of your rights occurred.
3. Defendants. Print all of the requested information about each of the defendants in the spaces provided. If you are naming more than four defendants, you must provide the necessary information about each additional defendant on separate pages labeled “2-A,” “2-B,” etc., at the bottom. Insert the additional page(s) immediately behind page 2.

**Part B. PREVIOUS LAWSUITS:**

You must identify any other lawsuit you have filed in either state or federal court while you were a prisoner. Print all of the requested information about each lawsuit in the spaces provided. If you have filed more than three lawsuits, you must provide the necessary information about each additional lawsuit on a separate page. Label the page(s) as “2-A,” “2-B,” etc., at the bottom of the page and insert the additional page(s) immediately behind page 2.

**Part C. CAUSE OF ACTION:**

You must identify what rights each defendant violated. The form provides space to allege three separate counts (**one violation per count**). If you are alleging more than three counts, you must provide the necessary information about each additional count on a separate page. Number the additional pages “5-A,” “5-B,” etc., and insert them immediately behind page 5. Remember that you are limited to a total of fifteen additional pages.

1. **Counts.** You must identify which civil right was violated. **You may allege the violation of only one civil right per count.**
2. **Issue Involved.** Check the box that most closely identifies the issue involved in your claim. **You may check only one box per count.** If you check the box marked “Other,” you must identify the specific issue involved.
3. **Supporting Facts.** After you have identified which civil right was violated, you must state the supporting facts. Be as specific as possible. You must state what each individual defendant did to violate your rights. If there is more than one defendant, you must identify which defendant did what act. You also should state the date(s) on which the act(s) occurred, if possible.
4. **Injury.** State precisely how you were injured by the alleged violation of your rights.
5. **Administrative Remedies.** You must exhaust any available administrative remedies before you file a civil rights complaint. See 42 U.S.C. § 1997e. Consequently, you should disclose whether you have exhausted the inmate grievance procedures or administrative appeals for each count in your complaint. If the grievance procedures were not available for any of your counts, fully explain why on the lines provided.

**Part D. REQUEST FOR RELIEF:**

Print the relief you are seeking in the space provided.

**SIGNATURE:**

You must sign your name and print the date you signed the complaint. Failure to sign the complaint will delay the processing of your action. Unless you are an attorney, you may not bring an action on behalf of anyone but yourself.

**FINAL NOTE**

You should follow these instructions carefully. Failure to do so may result in your complaint being stricken or dismissed. All questions must be answered concisely in the proper space on the form. If you need more space, you may attach no more than fifteen additional pages. But the form must be completely filled in to the extent applicable. If you attach additional pages, be sure to identify which section of the complaint is being continued and number the pages.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name and Prisoner/Booking Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Place of Confinement

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip Code

**(Failure to notify the Court of your change of address may result in dismissal of this action.)**

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA**

_____ (Full Name of Plaintiff)	)	
Plaintiff,	)	
	)	
vs.	)	CASE NO. _____
	)	(To be supplied by the Clerk)
(1) _____ (Full Name of Defendant)	)	
(2) _____	)	
(3) _____	)	
(4) _____	)	
Defendant(s).	)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Check if there are additional Defendants and attach page 1-A listing them.	)	

**CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLAINT  
BY A PRISONER**

☐ Original Complaint

☐ First Amended Complaint

☐ Second Amended Complaint

**A. JURISDICTION**

1. This Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to:
- ☐ 28 U.S.C. § 1343(a); 42 U.S.C. § 1983
  - ☐ 28 U.S.C. § 1331; Bivens v. Six Unknown Federal Narcotics Agents, 403 U.S. 388 (1971).
  - ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Institution/city where violation occurred: \_\_\_\_\_

## B. DEFENDANTS

1. Name of first Defendant: \_\_\_\_\_. The first Defendant is employed as:  
\_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Position and Title) (Institution)
2. Name of second Defendant: \_\_\_\_\_. The second Defendant is employed as:  
\_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Position and Title) (Institution)
3. Name of third Defendant: \_\_\_\_\_. The third Defendant is employed as:  
\_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Position and Title) (Institution)
4. Name of fourth Defendant: \_\_\_\_\_. The fourth Defendant is employed as:  
\_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Position and Title) (Institution)

If you name more than four Defendants, answer the questions listed above for each additional Defendant on a separate page.

## C. PREVIOUS LAWSUITS

1. Have you filed any other lawsuits while you were a prisoner? ☐ Yes ☐ No
2. If yes, how many lawsuits have you filed? \_\_\_\_\_. Describe the previous lawsuits:
  - a. First prior lawsuit:
    1. Parties: \_\_\_\_\_ v. \_\_\_\_\_
    2. Court and case number: \_\_\_\_\_
    3. Result: (Was the case dismissed? Was it appealed? Is it still pending?) \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Second prior lawsuit:
    1. Parties: \_\_\_\_\_ v. \_\_\_\_\_
    2. Court and case number: \_\_\_\_\_
    3. Result: (Was the case dismissed? Was it appealed? Is it still pending?) \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Third prior lawsuit:
    1. Parties: \_\_\_\_\_ v. \_\_\_\_\_
    2. Court and case number: \_\_\_\_\_
    3. Result: (Was the case dismissed? Was it appealed? Is it still pending?) \_\_\_\_\_

If you filed more than three lawsuits, answer the questions listed above for each additional lawsuit on a separate page.



#### D. CAUSE OF ACTION

**COUNT I**

- [illegible]

## COUNT II

- [illegible]

### COUNT III

1. State the constitutional or other federal civil right that was violated: \_\_\_\_\_.
2. **Count III.** Identify the issue involved. Check **only one**. State additional issues in separate counts.  
☐ Basic necessities      ☐ Mail      ☐ Access to the court      ☐ Medical care  
☐ Disciplinary proceedings      ☐ Property      ☐ Exercise of religion      ☐ Retaliation  
☐ Excessive force by an officer      ☐ Threat to safety      ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.
3. **Supporting Facts.** State as briefly as possible the FACTS supporting Count III. Describe exactly what **each Defendant** did or did not do that violated your rights. State the facts clearly in your own words without citing legal authority or arguments.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
4. **Injury.** State how you were injured by the actions or inactions of the Defendant(s).  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.
5. **Administrative Remedies.**
- a. Are there any administrative remedies (grievance procedures or administrative appeals) available at your institution? ☐ Yes    ☐ No
- b. Did you submit a request for administrative relief on Count III? ☐ Yes    ☐ No
- c. Did you appeal your request for relief on Count III to the highest level? ☐ Yes    ☐ No
- d. If you did not submit or appeal a request for administrative relief at any level, briefly explain why you did not. \_\_\_\_\_.

**If you assert more than three Counts, answer the questions listed above for each additional Count on a separate page.**

**E. REQUEST FOR RELIEF**

State the relief you are seeking:

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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE OF PLAINTIFF

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name and title of paralegal, legal assistant, or  
other person who helped prepare this complaint)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of attorney, if any)

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\_\_\_\_\_  
(Attorney's address & telephone number)

**ADDITIONAL PAGES**

All questions must be answered concisely in the proper space on the form. If you need more space, you may attach no more than fifteen additional pages. But the form must be completely filled in to the extent applicable. If you attach additional pages, be sure to identify which section of the complaint is being continued and number all pages.